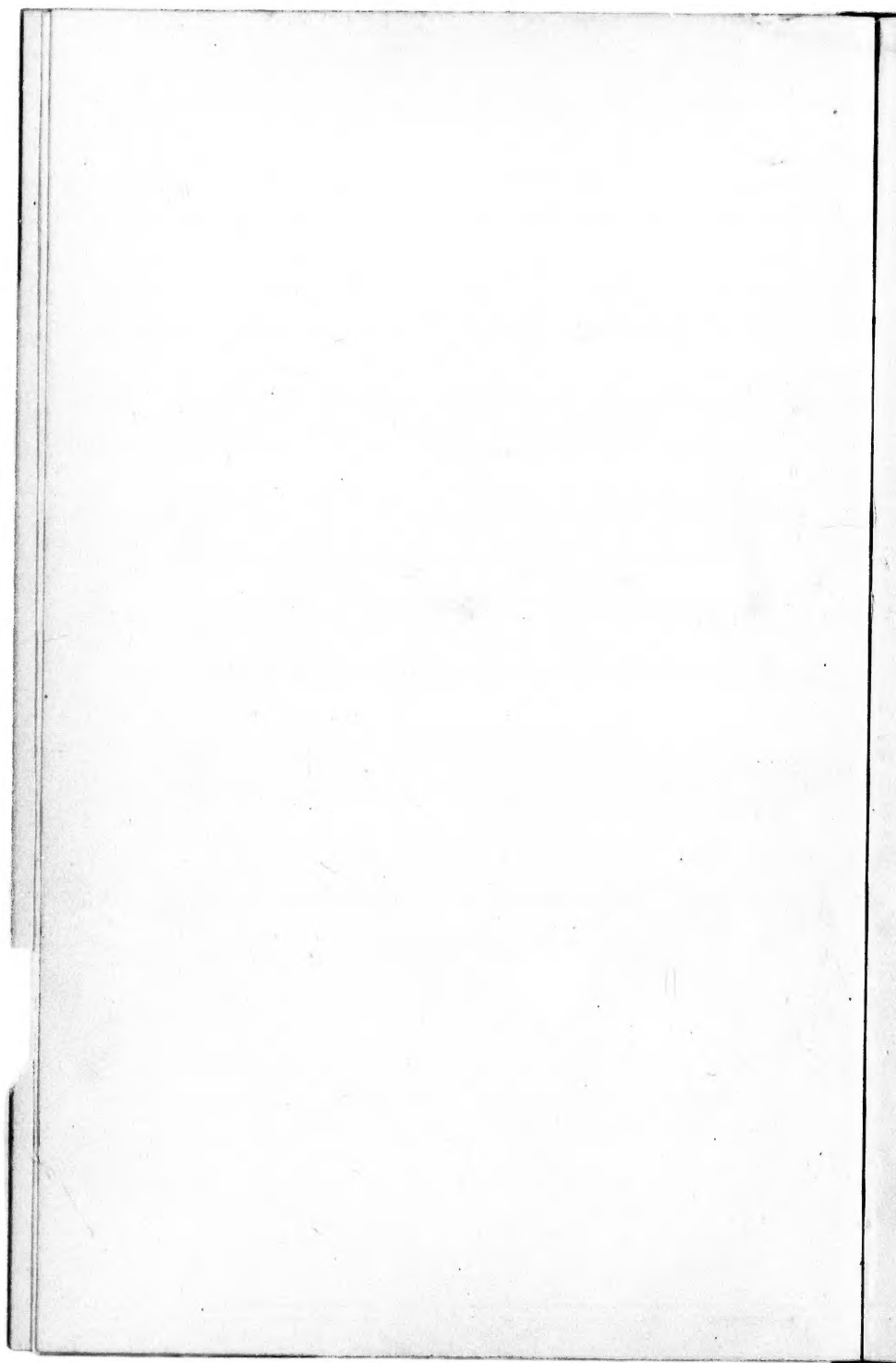




U.S. Treaties, etc., 1869-1877.

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CONVENTION

BETWEEN

THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AND

THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA

WITH

INSTRUCTIONS TO POSTMASTERS RELATIVE TO THE SYSTEM OF POSTAL
MONEY-ORDERS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE DOMINION
OF CANADA WHICH, BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT, IS TO GO INTO OPERA-
TION AUGUST 2, 1875.

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CONVENTION

BETWEEN

THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA AND THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT OF THE DO-
MINION OF CANADA.

The Postal Department of the United States of America and the Postal Department of the Dominion of Canada being desirous of establishing an exchange of money-orders between the two countries, the undersigned, duly authorized for that purpose, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE I.

There shall be a regular exchange of money-orders between the two countries for sums received from remitters in one country for payment to beneficiaries in the other.

The maximum of each order is fixed at forty dollars, gold value, when issued in the Dominion of Canada, and when issued in the United States at fifty dollars in the national paper currency of that country, but no money-order shall include the fractional part of a cent.

ARTICLE II.

The Postal Department of the Dominion of Canada shall have the power to fix the rates of commission on all money-orders issued in the Dominion of Canada, and the Postal Department of the United States shall have the same power in regard to all money-orders issued in the United States.

Each Postal Department shall communicate to the other its tariff of charges or rates of commission, and these rates shall, in all cases, be paid in advance by the remitter, who shall not be entitled to repayment thereof. It is understood, moreover, that each Department is authorized to suspend temporarily, after having given sixty days' notice of such intention to the other, the exchange of money-orders, in case the course of exchange, or any other circumstances, should give rise to abuses or cause detriment to the postal revenue.

ARTICLE III.

Each country shall keep the commission charged on all money-orders issued within it, but shall pay to the other country one-half of one per cent. on the total amount of such orders.

ARTICLE IV.

The service of the postal money-order system between the two countries shall be performed exclusively through the agency of offices of

exchange, which shall be established in the United States by the Postmaster-General of that country. Eight such offices are hereby designated, viz: Bangor, Me.; Boston, Mass.; New York, Ogdensburg, and Buffalo, N. Y.; Detroit, Mich.; Saint Paul, Minn., and Portland, Oreg., and the number and location of these offices may be changed from time to time by said Postmaster-General as the interests of the service may require.

ARTICLE V.

Any person in the United States desiring to remit to the Dominion of Canada a sum of money within the limits prescribed by Article I, hereof, may pay it into any post-office in the United States designated from time to time by the Postmaster-General of that country for the transaction of Canadian money-order business. Such person shall, at the same time, give the name and address of the person to whom the amount is to be paid in said Dominion, and also his own name and address.

Any person in the Dominion of Canada, desiring to remit to the United States a sum of money within the same limits, may pay it into any money-order office of said Dominion, designated by the Postmaster-General thereof for said purpose, giving at the same time the name and address of the person to whom the amount is to be paid in the United States, and also his own name and address.

The receiving postmaster in either country shall, in accordance with the rules established by its Postal Department, forward a coupon, an advice, and a money-order to the exchange-office in the United States most convenient to the residence of the beneficiary for whom the money is intended, the postmaster of which exchange-office shall, immediately after the receipt thereof, certify upon the coupon, the advice, and the order, the value of the same in the currency of the country in which payment is to be made, and he shall likewise enter therein the name of the inland office at which the same is to be paid, and shall at once forward the advice to said office, and the order to the beneficiary for whom the money is intended, retaining the coupon on file in his office as a voucher for his own protection and information.

ARTICLE VI.

The money-orders, advices, and coupons issued in each country shall have printed thereon consecutive local or inland numbers, the number upon each advice and coupon being the same as upon its corresponding order; and, in addition thereto, all such orders, advices, and coupons shall be numbered consecutively at the exchange-office at which they are certified, which numbers shall be in the order of their receipt and certification, and shall be designated as "international numbers."

The discovery, by an inland postmaster, of any error in a money-order or advice shall be by him promptly reported to the exchange-office through which the same was certified, and any error coming to the notice of an exchange-office shall at once be reported to the Money-Order Office at Washington, D. C., in order that an explanation or correction may be given or asked for, as the case may be, which explanation or correction shall be afforded with the least possible delay.

ARTICLE VII.

Lists of all orders issued during each week by postmasters in either country for payment in the other, shall, at the close of the week, or as soon thereafter as practicable, be transmitted by the Postal Department of the issuing to that of the paying country, and at the close of

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each fiscal quarter two copies of an account shall be prepared and transmitted to the Postal Department of the United States by the Postal Department of the Dominion of Canada, exhibiting the balance found due on the exchanges of money-orders during the quarter, one copy of which, after proper verification and acknowledgment, shall be returned to the Postal Department of the Dominion of Canada. If this verified account shows a balance in favor of the Postal Department of the Dominion of Canada, that of the United States will transmit, with such verified copy of the quarterly account, a bill of exchange on Montreal, Canada, for the amount of said balance, payable to the Postal Department of the Dominion of Canada. The latter will then send an acknowledgment of receipt to the Postal Department of the United States. If, on the other hand, said account, after verification and acknowledgment as aforesaid, shows a balance in favor of the Postal Department of the United States, then the Postal Department of the Dominion of Canada will, upon receipt of the certified copy of the same, transmit to that of the United States a bill of exchange for the amount thereof on New York. The United States Postal Department will then send in return an acknowledgment of receipt.

If, pending the settlement of an account, one of the two Postal Departments shall ascertain that it owes the other a balance exceeding five thousand dollars, the indebted administration shall promptly remit the approximate amount of such balance to the credit of the other. The expenses attending the remittance of bills of exchange shall invariably be borne by the Postal Department having to make the payment.

This account and the letters which accompany such intermediate remittances shall be in accordance with the forms A, B, and C, hereto annexed.

ARTICLE VIII.

Until the two Postal Departments shall consent to an alteration, it is agreed that, in all matters relative to money-orders which shall result from the execution of the present convention, the Canadian dollar shall be considered equivalent to one dollar of the gold coin of the United States, and the exchange offices in the United States shall certify all orders upon the basis of gold.

ARTICLE IX.

The value, in gold coin, of deposits made in the United States in paper money, for payment to beneficiaries in the Dominion of Canada, and the value, in United States paper money, of deposits made in the Dominion of Canada in gold coin, or currency of par value, for payment in the United States, shall be determined according to the rate of premium on gold in New York, N. Y., in the following manner, viz: The postmaster at New York shall, at three o'clock p. m. of each day, except Sunday, telegraph to each of the above-named exchange-offices in the United States the rate of premium on gold at that hour, which rate shall, when received by such exchange-office, be taken as the basis of conversion of money values for the next and for all subsequent orders and advices dispatched and received, until the receipt of the next telegram from the postmaster at New York.

ARTICLE X.

A duplicate order shall only be issued by the Postal Department of the country on which the original order was drawn, and in conformity with the regulations established or to be established in that country.

ARTICLE XI.

A money-order returned, on application by a dispatching exchange-office, to the inland issuing postmaster, as "not certified for payment," may be repaid by said postmaster to the remitter, in the same manner as a domestic order.

ARTICLE XII.

An order which shall not have been paid within twelve calendar months after the month of its issue shall become void, and the sum received therefor shall accrue to and remain at the disposal of the country of origin, and the advice shall be returned, by the inland postmaster holding the same, to his Postal Department, to be by it returned to the Postal Department of the country in which it originated. The Postal Department of the Dominion of Canada shall, therefore, enter, to the credit of the United States, in the quarterly account, all sums certified from the latter country which remain unpaid at the end of the period specified. On the other hand, the United States Postal Department shall, at the close of each month, transmit to the Postal Department of the Dominion of Canada, for entry in the quarterly account, a detailed statement of all orders dispatched from said Dominion which, under this article, become void.

ARTICLE XIII.

Repayment of an order, not void, to a remitter shall not be made until an authorization therefor shall first have been obtained by the Postal Department of the country of issue from the Postal Department of the country where such order was made payable; and the amount of the repaid order shall be duly credited to the former country in the quarterly account. It is the province of each Postal Department to determine the manner in which repayment to the remitter is to be made.

ARTICLE XIV.

The orders drawn by each country upon the other shall be subject, as regards payment, to the regulations which govern the payment of domestic orders in the country on which they are drawn.

ARTICLE XV.

The Postal Department of each country shall be authorized to adopt any additional rules, not repugnant to the foregoing, for greater security against fraud, or for the better working of the system generally. All such additional rules, however, must be promptly communicated to the Postal Department of the other country.

ARTICLE XVI.

The present convention shall take effect on Monday, the 2d day of August, 1875, and shall continue in force until twelve months after the date at which one of the contracting parties shall have notified to the other its intention to terminate it.

Done in duplicate, and signed at Washington, on the eighth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and at Ottawa, Canada, on the twenty-third day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five.

{ Seal of the Post-Office }
{ Department of the }
{ United States. }

(Signed)

MARSHALL JEWELL,

Postmaster-General of the United States.

{ Seal of the Post-Office }
{ Department of the }
{ Dominion of Canada. }

(Signed)

T. FOURNIER,

Postmaster-General of the Dominion of Canada.

I hereby approve the foregoing convention, and in testimony thereof I have caused the seal of the United States to be hereto affixed.

(Signed)

U. S. GRANT.

By the President:

{ Seal of the United States. }

(Signed)

JOHN L. CADWALADER,

Acting Secretary of State.

JULY 7, 1875.

INSTRUCTIONS TO POSTMASTERS

RELATIVE TO

THE SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL POSTAL MONEY-ORDERS
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE DOMINION OF
CANADA, WHICH, BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT, IS TO GO
INTO OPERATION AUGUST 2, 1875.

1. The exchange of money-orders between the two countries is to be effected through the agency of certain post-offices in the United States, selected for that purpose, to be known as "INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE-OFFICES."

Eight such exchange-offices have been agreed upon in the foregoing postal convention, viz:

Bangor, Me.
Boston, Mass.
New York, N. Y.
Ogdensburgh, N. Y.

Buffalo, N. Y.
Detroit, Mich.
Saint Paul, Minn.
Portland, Oreg.

2. Certain other money-order post-offices in this country, specially selected for this service by the Postmaster-General, and to be known as "INLAND OFFICES," in distinction from the exchange-offices, are authorized to issue money-orders on any of the above-mentioned international exchange-offices, payable to beneficiaries in the Dominion of Canada, and to pay orders, properly certified by postmasters of such exchange-offices, for sums remitted by postmasters in the Dominion of Canada, for payment to beneficiaries in the United States; but each exchange-office shall also be an inland office, the postmaster at which shall have the right to draw orders on his own or on any other exchange-office for certification in the usual manner. Hence, a postmaster in either country cannot draw an international money-order, for an amount deposited with him, directly upon a postmaster in the other, but must draw the same upon some one of the designated "exchange-offices" most convenient to the residence of the payee or beneficiary for whom the money is intended. An international money-order must not be drawn for a larger sum than *fifty dollars in United States currency*, and must not contain a fractional part of a cent. The fees for the issue of international money-orders are as follows, viz:

On orders not exceeding \$10, twenty cents; over \$10, and not exceeding \$20, forty cents; over \$20, and not exceeding \$30, sixty cents; over \$30, and not exceeding \$40, eighty cents; over \$40, and not exceeding \$50, one dollar. No other currency than United States or national-bank notes can be received or paid in this country.

3. The Canadian dollar is equivalent in value to the gold dollar of the United States, but the issuing postmaster must not undertake to decide definitely upon the actual value, in United States gold coin, (or Cana-

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dian money,) of a certain sum in currency for which an international order is issued by him. He is at liberty, however, to advise the remitter as to its approximate value, which may be found to differ materially from the real value, as the latter is to be computed, on the day the order is received by the exchange-office, upon the basis of the premium on gold in *New York*, as last advised by the postmaster of that city. Hence, this Department cannot undertake, on behalf of a remitter in this country, to pay a determinate sum in gold, (or Canadian money,) in the Dominion of Canada. As the premium on gold is variable, it is evident that an international order issued for a sum in United States currency may, when received at such "exchange-office," yield a sum in gold greater or less than that considered at the office of issue as the equivalent of such order. For the same reason, the value in United States currency of an order in gold, when received for certification by any "exchange-office," would depend upon the premium on gold in *New York*, on the day of the receipt of the order, as shown by the last telegraphic advices from the postmaster thereof to such "exchange-office." This Department, therefore, can only agree to cause payment to be made to a beneficiary in the Dominion of Canada of the gold value of any international money-order issued for an amount in United States currency, and to pay to a beneficiary in this country the currency value of an international order in gold from the Dominion of Canada. To guard against misapprehension, postmasters will be careful to explain this point fully to remitters and to payees.

4. A special form of application, form "No. 1, Canadian," must be furnished to each applicant for an international money-order payable in the Dominion of Canada. On this form he must enter all the particulars of the amount, names, address, &c., and must state the *full name* and *exact residence* of the payee, giving the town or village and county. From the items contained in such application the (inland) issuing postmaster will fill up an international money-order, form "No. 12, Canadian," the advice of the same, "No. 12a," the coupon, "No. 12b," and the receipt, "No. 12d," all of which, after having been properly dated, and stamped with the money-order stamp of his office, he will forward, *without separating them*, to the international exchange-office nearest the residence of the payee, but he will not undertake to enter upon either of them the name of the post-office in the Dominion of Canada at which such order is to be paid. He will also fill up, detach, and deliver to the remitter of such order the certificate, "No. 12c." Upon the return to him, from the exchange-office, of the receipt, "No. 12d," he will place the same on file in his office for reference, should the remitter apply for information as to the gold-value of the order. He will also enter in his "COMBINED REGISTER" of money-orders issued, the particulars of such order, in accordance with the instructions contained in circular "No. 76g, Combined," issued June 1, 1875, by the Superintendent of the Money-Order System, and the application must be retained on file at the issuing-office. When an order, drawn by a postmaster in the Dominion of Canada, and properly numbered, dated, certified, stamped, signed, and addressed to him by the postmaster at a duly-authorized international exchange-office, is presented for payment to the postmaster of an inland office, authorized to transact Canadian business, he will compare such order with the corresponding advice, which should previously have been received by him, and after having satisfied himself, in the manner required for domestic orders, (see sections 839 to 844, inclusive, of the "Postal Laws and Regulations,") that both the advice and order are

correct, and that the person presenting the order is legally entitled to receive the amount due thereon, he will pay the same, and will enter all such paid orders upon his combined weekly statement in the manner described in circular No. 76g, above referred to. The postmaster issuing a Canadian order should be careful to instruct the sender thereof that he "should at once inform the payee, in Canada, of the full name and address of the remitter," inasmuch as payment thereof cannot be obtained unless the payee is able to furnish that information to the paying postmaster. All applications for duplicates of lost or missing advices, or for corrections of advices, must be made to the exchange-postmaster by whom such advices were certified. The general rules in regard to the issue and payment of domestic orders, contained in the book of "Postal Laws and Regulations," are to be observed in the issue of international money-orders, in so far as these rules are applicable. The postmaster, however, must refuse to issue an order payable to any person, if the surname of that person, and his given name or names, or at least the initial letters thereof, are not furnished by the applicant. If the payee be a firm, the usual designation of such firm will suffice, such as "Baring Bros.," "Smith & Son," "Jones & Co.," but the mere term "Messrs." such as "Messrs. Rivington," or the name of a company trading under a title which does not consist of the names of the persons composing such company, as, for example, "The Carron Company," must not be accepted as sufficient by the issuing postmaster, who will decline to issue an order for payment in the Dominion of Canada in favor of such payee, as payment thereof would be refused in that country.

5. The postmaster at New York, N. Y., will telegraph at 3 p. m. daily, except Sunday, the rate of premium on gold at that hour in New York, to each of the exchange-offices designated for the certification of international orders to and from Canada.

6. The postmaster at each of said international exchange-offices will, whenever he receives an order, ("No. 12,") with its corresponding "advice," "coupon," and "receipt," stamp AT ONCE upon each of these papers the current international number, and the date of its receipt at his office. He will also enter therein the value of the same in gold, (or Canadian currency,) if such order originated in the United States, or its value in United States currency, if it originated in the Dominion of Canada, as ascertained by calculation, upon the basis of the last telegram received by him from the postmaster at New York, and the name of the post-office in the Dominion of Canada or in the United States, as the case may be, at which he desires the same to be paid, which should be the office nearest the residence of the payee or most accessible by him. He will then forward the order, inclosed in an envelope, to the payee, and the advice to the postmaster instructed to pay the order, and will send back the receipt to the issuing postmaster, but will retain the coupon on file in his office for future reference. At the close of each week he will make up, in duplicate, from the coupons on file in his office, a "weekly list of international money-orders," issued in the United States, which have been certified by him during the week for payment in the Dominion of Canada, and a "weekly list of international money-orders," issued in the Dominion of Canada, which have been certified by him during the week for payment in the United States, and will forward such duplicate "lists," with his weekly statement, to the Superintendent of the Money-Order System at Washington, D. C. He will also furnish, upon the application of postmasters drawn upon, dupli-

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cates of lost advices, which must be made up from the corresponding coupons on file in his office. When the postmaster at an exchange-office receives an application from a paying postmaster for a *corrected advice*, the former will, if necessary, apply to the issuing postmaster for precise information in the premises, and will communicate the same to the postmaster at the office of payment.

Exchange-office postmasters are required to keep on file in their offices the telegrams received daily from New York concerning the premium on gold.

7. When a remitter of an international money-order, payable in the Dominion of Canada or in the United States, makes application to the issuing postmaster for repayment of the amount thereof, the latter should immediately communicate the fact to the postmaster of the exchange-office on which it was drawn, whereupon, if he has not already certified and forwarded the order to the payee, and the advice to the paying postmaster, he will return them to the issuing postmaster for repayment. But if the order (in case it is payable in the Dominion of Canada) has been so certified, the issuing postmaster, upon the receipt of notice to that effect from the exchange-office, will apply to the Superintendent of the Money-Order System at Washington, D. C., for repayment, who will notify the Canadian Postal Department of such application, and request authority for repayment of the order. When that authority is received by him, notice will at once be sent to the issuing postmaster to repay the amount of the order.

8. All orders certified for payment in either country, which for any reason cannot be paid within twelve months after the month of issue, become *invalid*, and will be recertified to the country of issue for repayment or other disposal in accordance with the laws and regulations of that country. Postmasters will, therefore, take care to forward promptly to this Department the advices of all invalid orders of this kind, with their weekly statements, and a description thereof.

9. All inquiries from inland postmasters in the United States concerning the issue or the payment in Canada of international money-orders should be addressed to the postmaster of the exchange-office by which such orders were certified.

10. In case the postmaster who issues an international order, does not receive, after a sufficient lapse of time, the corresponding receipt thereof, duly filled up and stamped by the postmaster at the exchange-office drawn upon, the former should send him a letter of inquiry on the subject, with the request that, if the order and advice have not been received at the exchange-office, the latter would transmit to the issuing office, and also to the Superintendent of the Money-Order System at Washington, D. C., a certificate to that effect. Upon the receipt of such a document, the postmaster who issued the originals should at once draw upon and transmit *to the same exchange-office* a new order, advice, coupon, and receipt in lieu thereof for a like amount, after having *written across the face of each of them in red ink* the words, "*In lieu of Canadian money-order No. —, not received by the postmaster at — exchange-office.*" The certificate of non-receipt should be carefully filed by the issuing postmaster, but it is not necessary for him to furnish the remitter with a second receipt. Great caution should be exercised by exchange-office postmasters in certifying such orders, as they will be held responsible for all double payments that may occur through their negligence.

11. Postmasters will receive, for transacting the Canadian international

money-order business, the following rate of compensation, viz: one-fourth of one per cent. on the gross amount of orders issued and of orders paid. But the annual salary or compensation of a postmaster, from all sources, cannot, except in the case of the postmaster at New York, exceed four thousand dollars.

12. The domestic money-order regulations in regard to incidental expenses, and to the transfer of funds and blanks from a late to a newly-appointed postmaster, are to be followed in the transaction of the Canadian international money-order business.

13. Attention, promptitude, and accuracy on the part of postmasters are essential to the utility and success of an international money-order system.

MARSHALL JEWELL,
Postmaster-General.

JULY 15, 1875.

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